



Davis Griffith-Cox

July 24, 1941 - March 24, 2023

Davis Griffith-Cox, scion of a family who came to Texas before the days of the Republic, passed away on March 24, 2023. Davis was born July 24, 1941, a fifth generation Texan who grew up at Griffith Homeplace with family stories of famous pioneer citizens of Texas told as often as if they were the neighbors next door. Among the many notable ancestors in Davis' family, was a Great-Great-Grandfather who was a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. His Great-Grandfather, Dr. Griffith, was a close friend of Sam Houston, who was his first patient upon the Griffith's arrival in Texas. Davis spoke of himself as just an "ole country boy from East Texas", but Professor Griffith-Cox traveled the world, both living and studying abroad for several years. He dined with Governors, the President of the United States, and the Queen of England, at their personal invitation. He also, at times, served as a personal consultant, and was the house guest, of several movie stars. Davis served as professor and division chairman at many universities, teaching painting, sculpture (he had degrees in both), anatomy, architectural design, and as head of an art school. He was a restoration specialist, historian, and public speaker, and authored three books. Having served on several boards of directors, he was also the founder, president, and CEO of Griffith Homeplace Museum and curator of The Historic Griffith Collection, encompassing the many historical and ancestral heirlooms, artifacts and other treasured objets d' art. Davis was also a long-time member of Our Merciful Saviour Episcopal Church in Kaufman.

Davis is survived by two sons, Lawrence and Jefferson, as well as other extended family members, countless friends, students, colleagues and organizations that will continue to honor his many insightful and invaluable contributions to historical archives.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our brother, Davis. We thank you for giving him to us, his friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Celebration of his life will be at 11:00am, Wednesday, April 26th, 2023, at Our Merciful Savior Episcopal Church, 500 S. Jackson, Kaufman, TX, 75142. A private committal service was held and Davis was laid to rest at the historic Griffith family area of Oakland Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to: Griffith Home Place Museum, 803 First Street Terrell, TX 75160.

Cemetery Details

Oakland Memorial Park

1000 W. Moore Avenue
Terrell, TX 75160

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 26. 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Merciful Savior Episcopal Church
500 S. Jackson St
Kaufman, TX 75142

Tribute Wall



“ *Davis Griffith-Cox*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *I am so blessed to have known Davis as a friend and community-builder. Attending his book-reading at Books and Crannies was a tour of Terrell only he could tell--and tell it with vividness that put us all in that time and space. May perpetual light shine on our friend and his family.*

Peter McNabb - April 26, 2023 at 07:17 AM



“ *I first met Davis in the late 1980s while working to decorate and renovate a house I bought on Rockwall Street for a law office. Since then Davis has put his talent to use decorating my house on Johnson Street, and two more offices. He was certainly one of a kind and a unique talent. I will miss his story telling and vast memory of early Terrell and Texas.*
David Lewis

David Lewis - April 25, 2023 at 05:00 PM



“ *I worked one summer for Mr. Cox salvaging parts from old houses. He was very interesting person. I am sorry to read about his passing. RIP*

Norman Simpson - March 31, 2023 at 10:43 PM

EH

“ We shared a friendship with Davis for the last 25 years through the church, Our Merciful Saviour Episcopal, in Kaufman. He shared his talent of design with the church in several projects.
I was glad I was able to visit him the last week of his life in the nursing home. He will be missed.

Elaine & Jimmy Howard - March 28, 2023 at 12:17 PM

SR

Davis and I held a very special friendship all our lives. After we graduated from high school we didn't get to see each other often, but when we did it was always so much fun. I always admired his many talents. And he always voiced his special thoughts of me. I am so sorry that I had not seen him in several years. But he always knew that I was his dear friend. Rest in peace my friend. 💕

Shirley Raines - March 30, 2023 at 02:58 PM

EK

“ Davis and I graduated class of 1959. He had a great life and was a good friend. Praying for your family. Frank and Elaine Hunt Kasper.



Elaine Kasper - March 27, 2023 at 02:08 PM

JP

“ Joe & Cynthia Parnell lit a candle in memory of Davis Griffith-Cox



Joe & Cynthia Parnell - March 27, 2023 at 11:06 AM